

## Message Text

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17

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-01

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NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-06 SAM-01 OES-03

SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 FEA-01 PA-01 PRS-01 /094 W

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FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3786

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 15395

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ENRG, EFIN, EC, IT

SUBJECT: EC FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING IN LUCCA: ECONOMIC TOPICS

1. DURING ECMIN'S OCTOBER 21 VISIT, MFA VICE DIRECTOR  
GENERAL FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS RICCIULLI BRIEFED ECMIN ON  
ECONOMIC SUBJECTS COVERED AT EC MINISTERS' MEETING  
IN LUCCA OCTOBER 18.

2. MAJOR ECONOMIC TOPIC WAS UK'S INSISTENCE TO SEEK A  
SEPARATE SEAT TO THE DECEMBER CONFERENCE ON INTERNATIONAL  
ECONOMIC COOPERATION. THE BRITISH TENACTIOUSLY DEFENDED  
THEIR POSITION AND NO CONCLUSIONS WERE REACHED. OBVIOUSLY,  
RICCIULLI NOTED, THIS SUBJECT WILL HAVE TO BE TAKEN UP AT  
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FORTHCOMING EC MEETINGS. RICCIULLI ADDED HIS OWN CONCERN

OVER THE UK ATTITUDE ON THIS POINT, NOTING THAT UNLESS THE UK BACKED DOWN, INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES (HE SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED FRG, NETHERLANDS AND ITALY) WOULD HAVE TO TAKE A SIMILAR POSITION. HE OFFERED NO OPINION ON HOW THIS PROBLEM MIGHT BE SOLVED.

3. OTHER ECONOMIC SUBJECT ENTERING INTO FOREIGN MINISTERS' DISCUSSIONS WAS THE OCTOBER 6 PREPARATORY MEETING IN NEW YORK FOR THE "BIG-SIX" SUMMIT. ITALY MADE IT CLEAR IN LUCCA THAT IT HAD NOT ATTENDED THE MEETING AS THE EC REPRESENTATIVE BUT RATHER AS ONE OF SEVERAL INDIVIDUAL NATIONS. THUS, THERE WAS NO QUESTION OF PRIOR CONSULTATIONS AMONG THE NINE. THIS WAS APPARENTLY NOT A CONTENTIOUS ISSUE, BUT RATHER A SUBJECT OF DISCUSSION.

4. RICCIULLI, WHO REMARKED THAT RUMOR HAD GIVEN VERY LITTLE BRIEFING TO HIS AIDES ON WHAT HAD TRANSPIRED, NOTED THAT THE MEETING WAS CONDUCTED IN AN INFORMAL, FRIENDLY AND FRANK ATMOSPHERE. VOLPE

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## Message Attributes

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